

THE DIRECTOR OF  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

1 October 1975

National Intelligence Officers

TO: General Walters

STATINTL

FROM:

1. This is a possible noncontroversial conversational opener with the Chinese during your 1 October visit to celebrate their glorious National Day.

2. Back in June 1975 there was a terse announcement in the Chinese press that geographic and personal names in China would be converted from the old fashioned Wade-Giles system to the Chinese communist contrived "Pin Yin" romanization system as of 1 September 1975. 1 September has come and gone and nothing has changed. USLO in Peking has made some good natured inquiries about the status of this system and has received evasive answers. Needless to say, if the Chinese should make the change it would cause our archivists considerable heartburn.

3. With your recognized linguistic credentials, this is a logical subject to ask about. For instance, your old friend HUANG Chen would become HUANG Zhen and his boss CHOU En-lai would become ZHOU En-lai. As an added fillip you might comment that the only two members of the Politburo whose names would not be affected by any change to Pin Yin

would be CHIANG Ching's sidekick, YAO Wen-yuan and her previous mentor, KANG Sheng who is also a fellow province (Shantung) mate of Madame MAO.

4. As for the "Water Margin" campaign I suggest only that you might ask them if SUNG Chiang (pronounced SOONG Jyang), the Chinese Robin Hood, really is meant to be Leonid Brezhnev? SUNG Chiang has been vilified by PRC publications as the arch capitulationist.